

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to ask for your help in ensuring the commitment to the public good is met by media licensees. Specifically, I would call your attention to the recent activities of the Sinclair Broadcast Group.

The conservative-leaning Sinclair plans to pre-empt prime-time programming to air portions of *Stolen Honor: Wounds That Never Heal*, which deals with the impact of Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry's 1971 anti-war testimony.

Broadcasting this extremely one-sided program just before the election would be an abuse of public airwaves.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their 62 stations to air an anti-Kerry "documentary" days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.